

16 October 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR GOVERNOR STEVENSON

Premier Stalin's address to the 19th Communist Party Congress on the 15th of this month (transcript of which is attached) has not yet been accorded by any analyst the importance which it deserves. I have gone over it with a couple of expert analysts of the State Department and we are enormously impressed with the flat, cold declaration of extended cold war which it contains when stripped of its embroidered verbiage. If all of the standard Communist references to "peaceful strivings", "fraternal struggles", and "peace loving peoples" are eliminated, the stark backbone of the statement is included in these phrases which, taken together, can be read in complete and logical continuity:

"Our Party and our country always needed....support of fraternal peoples abroad.

"When, in 1918-1919 British workers, during the armed attack of the British bourgeoisie on the Soviet Union, organized a struggle against war under the slogan 'Hands Off Russia,' this was support,....support of the Soviet Union.

"When Comrade Thorez or Comrade Togliatti state that their peoples will not fight against the peoples of the Soviet Union....then this is support,....support of....the Soviet Union.

"Our Party cannot be indebted to fraternal parties, and it must in its turn render them support....this is just the way it acts.

"After our Party had come into power in 1917....the representatives of fraternal parties,....had given it the name of a 'shock brigade' of the world revolutionary and workers' movement.

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"Naturally, it was very difficult to fulfill this honorable role while the 'shock brigade' was the one and only and while it had to fulfill this....role....singlehanded. Now matters are very different....new 'shock brigades' have appeared....it has become easier for our Party to struggle....

"All Communist,....parties which have not yet come to power....deserve special attention. "

It is extremely unwise to underestimate the importance of any of Stalin's statements although sometimes it is not as easy as in the present instance to highlight their actual meaning. The significance of the above is unmistakable.

W.B.S.

Attachment

WBS/c
Orig--addressee
2 cc--signer(reading
(official ✓
1 cc--DD/I